

And it's often small gestures that can have the biggest impact on us such as someone taking the time to phone or email us or an unexpected visit or gift. Its very often the generous thought behind the gesture that is of greatest importance.

Father Kieran O'Mahony explains the use of language in our Gospel passage today very well:

"Jesus knows, of course, that it is not our hands or our feet or our eyes which cause us to sin (cf. Mark 7:14-23). There is a certain sarcastic, even caustic wit in telling us to lop off extremities, as if it were that simple. Sometimes, humour is more effective – more disarming at any rate – than blunt exhortation (hence, dictators always fear the comedians). The point is not lost however: we need to get to the root of the matter and undergo conversion of heart, then of life and then of the whole person, limbs and all!"

Father Kieran goes on to say:

"In strong terms Jesus condemns those who are destructive of the life of others, particularly the "little ones." Just as Jesus came that we might have life and have it to the full, we likewise are here to make a positive difference to others."

I conclude with a prayer written by Father Kieran which speaks very well to our Gospel today:

"Loving God,
help us to continue on
the path of conversion
of heart and life.
Help us to make those choices
which will reflect our faith in you,
loving, just and faithful God.
Help us to see ourselves
as you would wish us to be,
in your own image and likeness. Amen."

Gerard Reilly

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PARISH OF LARKHILL/WHITEHALL/SANTRY



NEWSLETTER



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what we can."

Jesus tells us today that *"anyone who is not against us is for us"*, which will resonate with many of us given the situation that the Church has found itself in recent times. In other words, the Holy Spirit can act in ways that we don't expect and we should not be surprised if we find God in unexpected places. There is an old Irish saying that we often meet God in the stranger which encourages us to be welcoming to others.

"There's' a certain definiteness in the gospel today. Like a team going on to a field to win," explains Father Donal Neary.

Father Donal adds: *"We are either with Jesus or against him, and this is proved in our way of life. Following Jesus does not necessarily mean being different from others. It means throwing ourselves into the everyday life and needs of people and giving*

He tells us that: *"Jesus is asking for a definite way of life and of wanting to make a difference. Faith is more than assent of the mind, but a way of life and of trust – a way of life in not hindering others, but helping with compassion and good deeds. Our way of life is a sharing of faith one to another – "Faith is passed on by contact, from one person to another, just as one candle is lighted from another" – Pope Francis."*

Jesus uses a phrase in today's Gospel that I often reflect on: *"If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward."*

There is a sense here that the small things in life are as important to God as bigger matters. In a way, that God's perspective is different to ours.



Blessing of Animals

Don't forget, in honour of St. Francis of Assisi, whose Feast Day is Wednesday 4th October, all pets will be blessed underneath the Bell Tower this **Sunday 30th September after the 12.30pm. Mass.** St. Francis embraced poverty and preached the love of God to all. In 1221, while praying at La Verna, he received the wounds of the crucified Lord, which caused him great pain in his final years. **Remember to bring your pets along for the special blessing.**



St. Therese of Lisieux – Monday, Oct 1st is the feast day of St. Therese of Lisieux, much loved by many Dubliners who call her the 'Little Flower'. During the 7.00p.m. Mass in the **Church of the Holy Child on Monday, 8th Oct. Fr. Damian McNeice** will mark the feast of St. Therese, with a brief homily about her spirituality and give blessings with a relic of the popular Carmelite saint. All are welcome.

Ministers of the Eucharist



The Roster for the month of October is now available from the table in the Reception area of the Parish Centre.

First Friday 5th October 2018 Mass Schedule – Church of the Holy Child- 9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Blessed Margaret Ball – 10.00a.m. Confessions on Thursday after the 9.15a.m. Mass and before the 7.00p.m. Mass

Recently Deceased:

You are asked to remember in your Prayers –

Dominic Hackett
Julia (Julie) Hogg



May they enjoy perfect peace and reconciliation in the presence of God.

Fr. Jim Hickey – Parishioners have been enquiring about Fr. Jim. He is fine except for an eye problem which has prevented him from celebrating Mass. So, at his own request he will no longer be able to celebrate the 8.30a.m. Mass on Sunday. He will, however, continue to con-celebrate the 9.15a.m. weekday Mass.

Parish Sunday Mass times are as follows:

Blessed Margaret Ball – 10.00a.m. Church of the Holy Child 11.15a.m., 12.30p.m. & 6.00p.m.

Indoor Plants wanted - as the greenery in the Church of the Holy Child has become a little tired, the Flower Ladies have asked if Parishioners would like to donate some large indoor plants for the Church. Peace Lilies, large ferns, palms etc. The Flower Team would be very grateful with any donations.

Be extra vigilant – Several houses have been broken into recently in the Shantalla/Ellenfield areas. Please ensure to **lock up** properly and **do not** answer the door to strangers.

Church Gate Collection - This weekend this Collection is for the Little Sisters of the Poor



Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:

1st Jackpot: 14 26 27 29 2nd Jackpot: 22 23 24 29 No Jackpot winner.
The winners of the 7 prizes of €25 were: A. Flood: F. Davis: J.M.B. Maher: M. Hallissey: A. Hackett: P. Troy: C. Brady.
Next Week's Lotto: First Jackpot € 10,750 Second Jackpot €700
7 Consolation Prizes of €25 plus 5 Special Prizes of €100

Parish Hospitality Team – New members are required for this important welcoming Parish Ministry. When there is a big event in the Parish i.e. the November Mass of Remembrance, Reconciliation Services or any occasion which might involve the Parish offering light refreshments, this team is required to help with pouring tea/coffee, and the clean up etc. If interested please contact Anne in the Parish Office. Tel: 01 8375274

Radio Maria Ireland is a Catholic Radio station at the service of the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Church. Please note that they are at your service and happy to facilitate news, events and new presenters to help build up the faith community. For more information: contact Fr. Eamonn McCarthy, Priest Director: Tel: +353 1 4123456 / www.radiomaria.ie

Mass Intentions for the coming week Church of the Holy Child

Mon. 1st Oct.	9.15a.m. Noreen Mullins (Birthday Remembrance) 7.00p.m. Deceased members of the White Family (R.I.P.)
Tues. 2nd Oct.	9.15a.m. Available for Intention 7.00p.m. Liam O'Brien (Anniversary)
Wed. 3rd Oct.	9.15a.m. For the intentions of all who sympathised on the death of Mona O'Donoghue R.I.P. 7.00p.m. Greg Flood (Month's Mind)
Thurs. 4th Oct.	9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Fri. 5th Oct.	9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Altar list of the Dead
Sat. 6th Oct.	10.00a.m. Available for Intention Vigil 7.00p.m. Thomas Flaherty (1st Anniversary) Noel Watson (Anniversary) Michael Walsh (Anniversary)
Sun. 7th Oct.	11.15a.m. People of the Parish 12.30p.m. Niall Irwin (Month's Mind) 6.00p.m. Available for Intention <u>Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball</u>
Wed. 3rd Oct.	10.00a.m. Available for Intention
Fri. 5th Oct.	10.00a.m. Altar List of the Dead
Sun. 7th Oct	10.00a.m. Frank Dornan (Anniversary) Sadie Piggott (Anniversary) Bernard & Dorothy Keyes (Anniversaries)